

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A device for lock-fixing an apparatus $[(1)]$ comprising a front face $[(10)]$, and at least two lateral sides $[(12)]$ designed to be mounted in a rack $[(2)]$ comprising side walls $[(21)]$ along which the lateral sides $[(12)]$ of the apparatus $[(1)]$ are inserted, said device comprising:

$[-]$ first $[(13)]$ and second $[(22)]$ fixing elements respectively secured to the two lateral sides $[(12)]$ of the apparatus and to the side walls $[(21)]$ of the rack, the first element being moved by operating a handle $(14, 14a)$ in order to interact with the ~~other element~~ second fixing element to fix the apparatus in the rack,

$[-]$ a mechanism $(15, 15a)$ for locking said handle,

$[-]$ the handle $[(14)]$ having a gripping member $(141, 141a)$ connected to a handle body $[(142)]$ situated on a lateral side $[(12)]$ of the apparatus,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein :

$[-]$ the locking mechanism comprises a sliding hook $[(151)]$ situated on one of the lateral sides $[(12)]$ close to an edge of the front face $[(10)]$ and a compression spring $[(152)]$, arranged so that, in the locking phase,

$[-]$ the handle being operated by the user in a rotary movement to fix the apparatus, the handle body $[(142)]$ moves along the lateral side comprising the hook $[(151)]$, retracting said hook $[(151)]$, thus freeing said handle $[(14)]$ to pass,

$[-]$ after the passage of the handle, the compression spring $[(152)]$ repositions the hook (151) thus serving as an abutment to said handle body in the locked position.

2. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hook $[(151)]$ has a bearing plane $[(157)]$ interacting with a bearing plane $[(146)]$ of the handle body to serve as an abutment.

3. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said bearing planes are in a plane parallel to the sliding axis of the hook.

4. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said bearing planes are in a plane beveled relative to the sliding axis of the hook.

5. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of claim~~[[s]] 2 ~~to 4~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bearing plane [[(146)]] of the handle body extends longitudinally, its longitudinal dimension being greater than that of the bearing plane [[(157)]] of the hook.

6. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claim~~[[s]] 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking mechanism [[(15)]] comprises a compression spring [[(152)]] associated with an abutment [[(153)]] used to hold the hook in the abutment position for the handle body in the locked position of the handle.

7. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the apparatus ~~having~~ has a front face with a rim arranged on at least one of its sides, the sliding hook and the compression spring are integrated into a housing [[(110)]] formed in said edge.

8. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the apparatus having a front face rimmed by a frame [[(11)]], said rim forms one side of the frame.

9. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of claim~~[[s]] 6 ~~to 8~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking mechanism also comprises a pushbutton [[(154)]] secured to the hook and situated on the front face of the apparatus allowing a user to retract the sliding hook to unlock the handle.

10. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pushbutton $[(154)]$ may be moved in a housing $[(111)]$ one edge of which forms said abutment $[(153)]$ for the sliding hook.

11. (currently amended): The device as claimed in ~~one of claim~~ $[[s]]$ 9 ~~or 10~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locking mechanism comprises a plate $[(155)]$ for closing said housing.

12. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of claim~~ $[[s]]$ 6 ~~to 11~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a slope $[(156)]$ is made on the sliding hook $[(151)]$ allowing said hook to be retracted during locking of the handle.

13. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claim~~ $[[s]]$ 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the handle body is secured to the side of the apparatus via a rotating pivot $[(143)]$.

14. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first fixing element $[(13)]$ is supported by one end of the handle body, opposite relative to said pivot of the end to which the gripping member $[(141)]$ is connected.

15. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first fixing element $[(13)]$ and the second fixing element $[(22)]$, secured to the rack, have complementary shapes making it possible to fasten them to one another when the apparatus is pushed into the rack to be fixed.

16. (currently amended): The fixing device as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first element $[(13)]$ is formed of a hook and the second element $[(22)]$ is formed of a projecting pin $[(221)]$ that can be moved along a slide $[(222)]$ formed in the rack and is associated with a spring $[(223)]$ calibrated so that the operation of the handle causes said calibrated spring to be placed in tension.

17. (currently amended): The fixing device according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, characterized in that it comprises further comprising first fixing elements on two opposite sides of the apparatus, these first fixing elements being moved by the operation of two handles ~~(14, 14a)~~ in order to interact with second fixing elements secured to the rack, and in that it comprises two locking mechanisms ~~(15, 15a)~~ substantially identical for each of said handles.

18. (currently amended): The fixing device according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the gripping members ~~(141, 141a)~~ of the two handles join together to form a central bar [[(145)]] allowing the two handles to be operated simultaneously.

19. (currently amended): A rack equipped with at least one apparatus fixed by means of a fixing device according to ~~one of the preceding~~ claim[[s]] 1, characterized in that wherein it has, on each of its side walls [[(21)]] situated facing one side of the apparatus [[(12)]] along which is situated a handle body [[(142)]], an area of reduced thickness allowing said handle body to be housed.